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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(Case No. 00-388-A)

PATENT

In the Application of:

Nolan et al.

Serial No.: 09/851,743

Filed: May 9, 2001

For: Methods for Testing Compounds Useful  
In Treating Diabetic Complications )

Before the Examiner:  
S. J. Sharareh

Group Art Unit: 1617

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICIAL ACTION  
MAILED JANUARY 27, 2004

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Arlington, VA 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action, mailed January 27, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims in light of the following amendments and remarks. Remarks begin at page 5 of this response.

**Status of the Claims in the application**

Claims 1-4, 6-7, 13-16, 18-19, 25-26, 28-31 and 33-34 are pending in the application. New claim 35 is added. The amendments are supported throughout the specification and claims as originally filed, and thus do not constitute new matter. The grounds of rejection asserted in the Official Action have been overcome by amendment or traversed by argument below.